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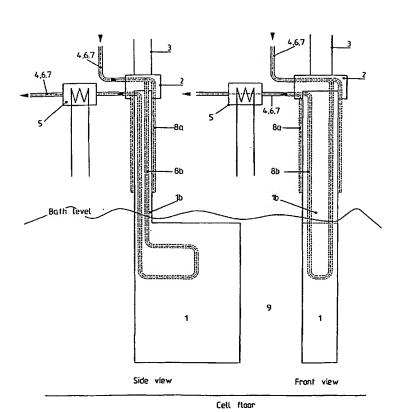
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(54) Title: CONTROL OF TEMPERATURE AND OPERATION OF INERT ELECTRODES DURING PRODUCTION OF ALU-MINIUM METAL



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods for operating and controlling the temperature of inert electrodes during production of molten aluminium by electrolysis of an aluminous ore, preferably alumina, dissolved in molten salts, preferably a fluoride based electrolyte, in an electrolysis cell with vertical or essentially vertical electrode configuration. The invention describes methods of designing and operating inert electrodes in a vertical and/or inclined position for production of aluminium metal. where said electrodes have an operating temperature that may deviate from the electrolyte temperature, thereby controlling the dissolution of electrode materials and preventing solid deposit formation on the electrodes. The present invention is also applicable to aluminium production cells utilising inert electrodes in a horisontal configuration, and traditional Hall-Heroult cells retrofitted with inert anodes.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/NO 03/00280

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC7: C25C 3/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC7: C25C Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched SE, DK, FI, NO classes as above Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. A US 4737247 A (NOEL JARRETT ET AL), 12 April 1988 1-38 (12.04.88), column 1, line 52 - line 68; column 2, line 56 - column 3, line 31, figure 1, claims 7,8 A US 4678548 A (MELVIN H. BROWN), 7 July 1987 1 - 38(07.07.87), column 1, line 56 - column 2, line 3; column 2, line 67 - column 3, line 32, figure 1, claims 1,3,6 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand to be of particular relevance the principle or theory underlying the invention earlier application or patent but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be filing date considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is step when the document is taken alone cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art means document published prior to the international filing date but later than "&" document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 2 1 -11- 2003 <u>17 November 2003</u> Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Swedish Patent Office

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Information on patent family members

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